

The Stay-at-Home Element Handicaps Union Labor

An article by James M. Lynch, written for the Denver Labor Bulletin, tells you what the stay-at-home element does to the efforts of those who try to help them by coming to the meetings. Brother Lynch's article follows:

"The stay-at-home element is the greatest drag to trade union effort. The trade union is the most important society with which the wage-earner is affiliated. It is his bread and butter organization. Under our present wage system it fixes the conditions under which he works and the money return for his labor. Nothing can be more important to the toiler, from an existence standpoint, than the wages and conditions under which he labors, for these directly affect the enjoyment of life and pursuit of happiness.

"Remember that you are responsible for your union and its welfare. You cannot shrink that responsibility. The union is what you and your colleagues make it. It can and should be a powerful engine for justice for the wage-earner. The wage-earner's future is in his own hands. He must work out his own destiny. He has an instrument ready at hand in his trade union for his elevation to a higher and better sphere. He

must use that instrument with care and discretion.

"Do your duty to yourself and those dependent upon you.

"Attend the meetings of your union. That many of the evils of which we complain, nearly all of the misunderstanding and a great proportion of the unfounded criticism would be eliminated if we had a better attendance at union meetings, is an opinion formed by me as a result of many years of trade union experience, both as a member of a local union, an officer of that union, and an officer of the international organization. The men and women who get to the union meetings understand the policies that are being made effective, and, as a general rule, are well satisfied with the progress that we are making. But whether they are satisfied or not, they know what they are talking about, for they have the facts first hand.

"We want intelligent criticism, and we want suggestions that are based on knowledge and experience. This criticism and these suggestions will come in greater proportion of wisdom if the members first learn of their local union and their international organizations from attendance at local union meetings."

Eastland Owners Fought Passage of Seamen's Law

Washington.—Owners of the ill-fated Eastland opposed the seamen's bill. Secretary Redfield of the department of commerce, has made public the letters of General Manager Hull, who called on the former to have the act either "modified or entirely canceled." The cabinet official answered that he had no such power, and in answer to his request for objections to the law, Hull replied, in substance:

"That it would be a 'physical impossibility' to comply with the life saving clauses of the law, and that 'if it were possible to put this amount of equipment on the Eastland the weight that would be added to her upper deck would make the boat difficult to handle.'"

"That the provision increasing the number of competent seamen 'would afford an opportunity to able seamen to fix an arbitrary wage and tie up the boat without provocation.'"

"There is no reason for an increase in life-saving equipment on this run."

"The boat is constructed of steel throughout. Her run between Chicago and St. Joseph is approximately sixty miles. She is at no time in excess of one hour and thirty-three minutes from shore, and at all times on her run is within ten to sixty minutes of all steamers. Assistance in case of trouble could readily be secured from other steamers and the ports of Chicago, Michigan City, Milwaukee, St. Joseph and South Haven."

"It will be impossible to operate under the seamen's law and make expenses. This will naturally affect the stocks and the bonds and in the case of a great many companies will render their bond issues practically worthless."

The sections of the seamen's law that General Manager Hull objected to will not take effect until November 4 next. This means that the Eastland would not have to comply with the law until next summer.

STRIKING WIRE MEN GAIN.

Minneapolis.—Striking electrical workers report continued advances in their effort to raise wages. International President McNulty was in the city recently and conferred with his fellow unionists, who have secured the work of wiring several large buildings in process of construction.

WANT A STATE CONSTABULARY.

Denver.—It is charged that corporate interests are preparing to have a "spontaneous" cry for a state constabulary start in various sections of Colorado. These corporations have brought the state militia into ill repute and hints of a Cossack system are now being heard.

CITY LABORERS' WAGES RAISED.

Everett, Mass.—The city council has increased wages of city laborers from \$2.25 to \$2.50 per day. The council refused to accept a report of its committee on finance that a two-weeks' vacation for these workers is illegal. This order was passed.

PRESSMEN ORGANIZE.

Muskegon, Mich.—A local of pressmen and press assistants has been formed in this city through efforts of Organizer Vickery. This official is assisting in building up the locals of the craft in Kalamazoo and Battle Creek.

IRON BUSINESS INCREASES.

Cleveland.—A local publication devoted to the iron and steel interests says that the demand for iron and steel for uses not connected with the European war is steadily increasing. This refers especially to automobile companies not catering to war business and large manufacturers of agricultural implements. It is stated that one of the largest independent concerns in the Pittsburgh district now operating at 85 per cent of its capacity, believes that 70 per cent of its orders represent domestic consumption.

WANT FACTORY INSPECTORS.

Atlanta, Ga.—Unionists of this State are urging the passage of a law creating the office of factory inspector to enforce statutes intended to protect the lives and health of working people. In an open letter to the State assembly, the Journal of Labor says:

"Some of the factories, mills and workshops of Georgia * * * there are conditions which appall an investigator and which shock the moral sense of any one who is not calloused by a criminal disregard of the health and morals of those who have been cast into the cauldron of cupidity."

PLUMBERS CONFER.

Everett, Wash.—Uniform laws providing for sanitary plumbing and a consequent increase of health was one of the main subjects discussed at the convention of the Northwestern Association of Plumbers and Steamfitters, held in this city. The delegates represented Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana and British Columbia. General Organizer Bruce said employers should join with the workers in this movement which would benefit the people as a whole.

METAL WORKERS TO ASK MORE.

Philadelphia.—At a meeting of executives of metal working unions it was decided that demands be made for a general wage increase. It was agreed that the local unions should present their demands at one time. It is probable that an eight-hour day will be included in the request. There was no strike sentiment at the meeting, the workers present believing that their demands will be conceded.

CONVICTS TO BUILD ROADS.

Sacramento, Cal.—Starting August 8 officials will work convicts on road building. Several camps of nearly 100 prisoners to apply the honor system at these camps. There will be no guards and the convicts will do their own policing, but the men will be selected who can be trusted. Credits will be given for good behavior.

STATE COURTS NOT AGREED.

Washington.—Contrary views of state courts on the validity of social legislation is shown in a bulletin (No. 69) just issued by the Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics.

In considering occupational diseases, for instance, the Massachusetts courts hold lead poisoning to be within the state act, providing for compensation for "personal injuries arising out of and in the course of employment," while the Michigan courts, under the provisions of a state law similarly expressed, hold that a case of lead poisoning is not entitled to compensation.

In Massachusetts inflammation of an eye, caused by inhaling poisonous gases, was held to come under the compensation act, while in New Jersey the court disallowed a claim on account of eczema said to be caused by acids used in a bleachery.

COURT WON'T INTERFERE WITH CARPENTER'S ACTS

New Orleans.—Circuit Judge Ellis has refused to restrain the Brotherhood of Carpenters from taking the charter from a local of carpenters in this city. The defunct union started suit but Judge Ellis held that the laws of the brotherhood gave ample protection to all concerned.

He said: "Plaintiff still has the right to appeal to the general convention of the United Brotherhood (of Carpenters and Joiners) and that pending said appeal provision is made for the holding in trust of the funds and entire effects of the plaintiff, by proper authority, and that provision is also made for the members of the plaintiff's union in good standing by the issuance of clearance cards which retain them upon their compliance with the rules of the brotherhood in all their rights as members; and further considering that under the facts here shown the duty of the court is to abstain from interference in the internal affairs of the brotherhood."

The union's charter was revoked on complaint of locals Nos. 1312 and 1846, sustained by a committee of investigation.

BUSINESS MEN OPPOSE CHILD LABOR MOVIES

Boston.—This city gives "park shows" in the various parks during the summer months, but the Boston industrial board refuses to be a party to the entertainments unless certain moving pictures dealing with the child labor question are eliminated.

These business men believe that Massachusetts should now halt all anti-child labor agitation until other States "catch up" with its legislation.

Another reason advanced by Chairman John N. Cole of the board, is that such pictures arouse prejudice in the minds of those people who are "very naturally dissatisfied with conditions." Mr. Cole is quite sure there are subjects enough to make interesting programs without dragging in such distressing incidents as child labor—he calls it: "the harrassing negative side of life."

"BIRD HOG" IS FARMER'S ALLY IN MOUNTAINS

Hunts Quail After Fashion of Trained Dog, Says Natchez Expert.

Savannah, Ga.—There is a hog down in Natchez, Miss., which is used to hunt quail. For proof the reader is referred to Ashland Shields, about twelve miles from Natchez. Mr. Shields is the proud owner of the "bird hog," the only one in the State of Mississippi, and, so far as records go, in the world. The "bird hog" works in this manner, according to Mr. Shields:

"The hog holds a covey perfectly and never flushes a bird. When he locates a covey the bristles rise on his back, his tail uncurls and becomes perfectly rigid, he lifts his left hind foot—making a perfect point."

Mr. Shields says that from early piggishood the animal associated with the Buckhurd dogs, acquiring their habits and outlooks, and being endowed with a brain of exceptional efficiency for a pig has surpassed the pointers at their own game.

SAYS REFERENDUM IS LEGAL.

Chicago.—L. H. Strawn, acting attorney general of Illinois, does not take seriously the claim of Addison C. Harris, of Indianapolis, that the referendum can not be legally adopted in those States that originally formed the Northwest Territory, because it was provided that this area, when turned over to the Union, "should have a strict republican form of government."

The Indianapolis man made this statement at a meeting of the Wisconsin Bar Association, and Attorney General Strawn says:

"These chaps who speak at bar association conventions always feel that they spend long hours trying to dig up something sufficiently startling. This looks like it was intended for just such a purpose."

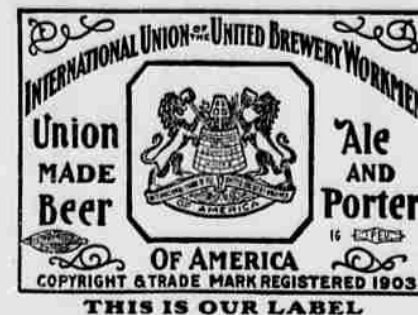
STATE EMPLOYMENT BUREAU.

Des Moines, Iowa.—The new state free employment bureau, connected with the bureau of statistics, is now in full running order. This department was created by the last legislature. The law took effect the first week of July.

CHICAGO "L" EMPLOYEES REJECT COMPANY'S RATE.

Chicago.—Offer of increased wages amounting to two cents an hour for the first year and a substantial additional increase for the second half of a two-year contract made by President Britton I. Budd of the Chicago elevated lines was rejected by the union employees. The result makes arbitration necessary. Mayor Thompson will act as umpire, as he did in the arbitration of the surface car men's dispute, and State's Attorney Hoyne again will act for the employees. The elevated roads have not selected a representative.

VOTE AGAINST PROHIBITION!



DEMAND

PERSONAL LIBERTY

IN CHOOSING WHAT YOU WILL DRINK

Ask for this Label when purchasing Beer, Ale or Porter,

As a guarantee that it is Union Made

—THE— HERANCOURT Brewing Co.

STRICTLY
UNION

LAGER

STRICTLY
UNION

COAL

BUY IT FROM YOUR FRIENDS

THE QUEEN CITY COAL CO.

PRIVATE EXCHANGE WEST 2820

FLEISCHMANN'S YEAST MAKES THE BEST BREAD

Labor Vote Not Deliverable Says Australian Worker

Sydney, New South Wales, Australia.—The Australian Worker makes this spirited reply to the charge by Premier Holman that a recent labor conference was merely "a voting machine."

"The labor movement is not clay in the hands of either a conference or a premier. It is not a plastic lump, to be pinched and squeezed into this shape or that by a number of persons posing as the molders of its destiny."

"The labor movement is a leaderless movement."

"It chooses certain individuals to voice its views and cast its votes, but it gives no one whatsoever the right or the power to impose his own personal ideas upon it—to embody his private opinions and prejudices and fallacies in formal statements and declare: 'Behold, the labor platform.'"

"The labor movement is the biggest thing on earth. It is so big that it can't be packed into four walls or crammed into the cranium of any man alive, be the size of his hat what it may."

"Nothing smaller than the whole world will do for it. Though for practical purposes it divides itself in accordance with geographical boundaries and racial characteristics, in spirit it is cosmopolitan, and even mountains and oceans cannot condition it."

"The labor movement represents the spontaneous coming together of the workers, goaded by common wrongs into seeking a common remedy."

"In the ordinary meaning of the term it has no 'leaders.' It neither desires nor requires them."

"It chooses delegates to do certain definite work; it endows them with power to vote in a certain way on certain definite subjects."

"But it has not the slightest intention of allowing itself to become the puppet of any man or group of men. It is bigger than any man or group of men. It is better than any man or group of men."

"VILLAGE BLACKSMITH" QUILTS WITH A PROFIT OF \$40,000.

Lafayette, Ind.—Matthew McNulty, who was at one time known as the "village blacksmith" of Lafayette, has retired after being in the business for nearly sixty years. He estimates that he has shod more than a half million horses and mules in his career.

He was a horseshoer during the days of the Wabash and Erie Canal and had the contract for shoeing the mules that provided the power for the boats between Toledo and Lafayette. McNulty accumulated a fortune of 40,000 and says he will now retire to his farm.

All Extra.

"There's some mistake about this bill," said the departing guest. "You told me your rates were five dollars a day." "So they are," said the genial hotel proprietor, "but that's just for having your name on the register. Rooms and board are extra."

Borrowed Finery.

The wedding party was moving down the aisle, and as the bride passed a woman friend sitting with her husband whispered: "She's wearing a veil loaned by her grandmother. Isn't it a beauty?" "It certainly is," replied her husband, "but just look at the white waistcoat the bridegroom is wearing. He borrowed that from me."

Probably Not.

"I believe a man should be master in his own house," said the newly married man. "There can be only one head in a family, and I mean to be it." "That's a very good idea," answered his friend, who had been married more years than the other had lived. "A very good idea indeed. Have you spoken to your wife about it?"

Considerate.

"I see you're teaching your wife to play golf. Is she an apt pupil?" "Oh, she doesn't care for the game at all. I'm merely teaching her the rudiments, so I can discuss the game with her when I come home from the links."

The Minimum Wage.

Adopting the recommendation of the conference, the Washington State industrial welfare commission has fixed \$9 per week as the minimum wage for chambermaids and "other hotel help," while the recommendation for \$11 per week for waitresses was rejected, and another conference will be called soon to further consider the problem. E. W. Olson, chairman of the commission, issued a statement saying conditions for waitresses vary to such a degree that further consideration will have to be given to fixing their compensation. A minimum of \$7.50 a week for all minors, male and female, employed in hotels or restaurants was adopted.

Ambitious.

To inspire his son, the National Guardsman had read aloud the report of the new class at the United States Military Academy going into camp on the banks of the Hudson.

"If you had your choice, son," said the father, "wouldn't you like to go to West Point?"

"If I had my choice, dad," replied the son, "I'd like to be at Montauk Point, Rockaway Point or Point Pleasant just about now."

Whereupon father crumpled his paper, seeing that there was no hope.